



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Fifth Legislature, First Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1482

professions; therapy ban prohibition

Purpose

Prohibits state offices and agencies, as well as specified subdivisions of those entities, from penalizing an individual who gives or receives therapy that is consistent with their conscience or religious beliefs.

Background

Behavioral therapy is defined as interactive therapy derived from evidence-based research, including applied behavior analysis, which includes discrete trial training, pivotal response training, intensive intervention programs and early intensive behavioral intervention ([A.R.S. § 20-1404.03](#)). The American Counseling Association, a national non-profit organization, defines counseling as a professional relationship that empowers diverse individuals, families and groups to accomplish mental health, wellness, education and career goals ([ACA](#)).

In addition to behavioral therapy, statute recognizes various forms of therapy including art therapy, drug therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, respiratory therapy, massage therapy, medical therapy, music therapy, speech therapy and dental therapy as forms of professional therapy ([A.R.S. Title 32](#)).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Prohibits a state office, agency, political subdivision of the state or local government or any organization with authority to license or discipline the members of a profession from imposing any penalty or taking any adverse action against any individual who gives, receives or consents to counsel, advice, guidance or any other speech or communication, whether described as therapy or not, whether provided for a fee or not and that is consistent with conscience or religious belief.
2. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

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